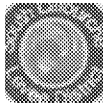


Tim

Mary



Windell Curole has shared a video with you on YouTube



Levee protective marsh restoration in south Lafourche Parish, Louisiana

by George Howard

Here is a video fly-by I made recently of just completed marsh restoration project near Galliano, Louisiana, in south Lafourche Parish. The project was federal and state funded under the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP).

Historically, a largely unbroken carpet of *Spartina* marsh existed at the "toe" of levees and acted as a "speed bump," protecting the earthen mounds from being battered by unimpeded storm waves. Today, the marsh has degraded to the point where it no longer provides an adequate barrier and the levees are subject to storm waves for which they are not engineered or constructed.

The stakes in this area if a levee was "crevassed" in a storm due to marsh degradation? A catastrophic flood leaving thousands of residents of Lafourche Parish homeless, and potentially threatening the critical infrastructure in Parish which transports fully 1/4 of the nation's oil and gas.

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